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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE REPORT

STATUS OF NORTH VIETNAMESE RAILROADS

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Declass Review by NIMA/DOD

Report No. 14  
CIA/PIR 75054

DATE OCTOBER 1966

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and declassification

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CIA IMAGERY ANALYSIS DIVISION

PIR - 75054

## PREFACE

This report summarizes significant items of photo intelligence relating to the North Vietnamese railroad system which has been developed from available photography (received by the CIA Imagery Analysis Division) during the period indicated on the cover. This report is intended to provide a comprehensive view of the railroad system and does not necessarily reflect the most recent status changes as reported by pilots' reports or field photo intelligence cables.

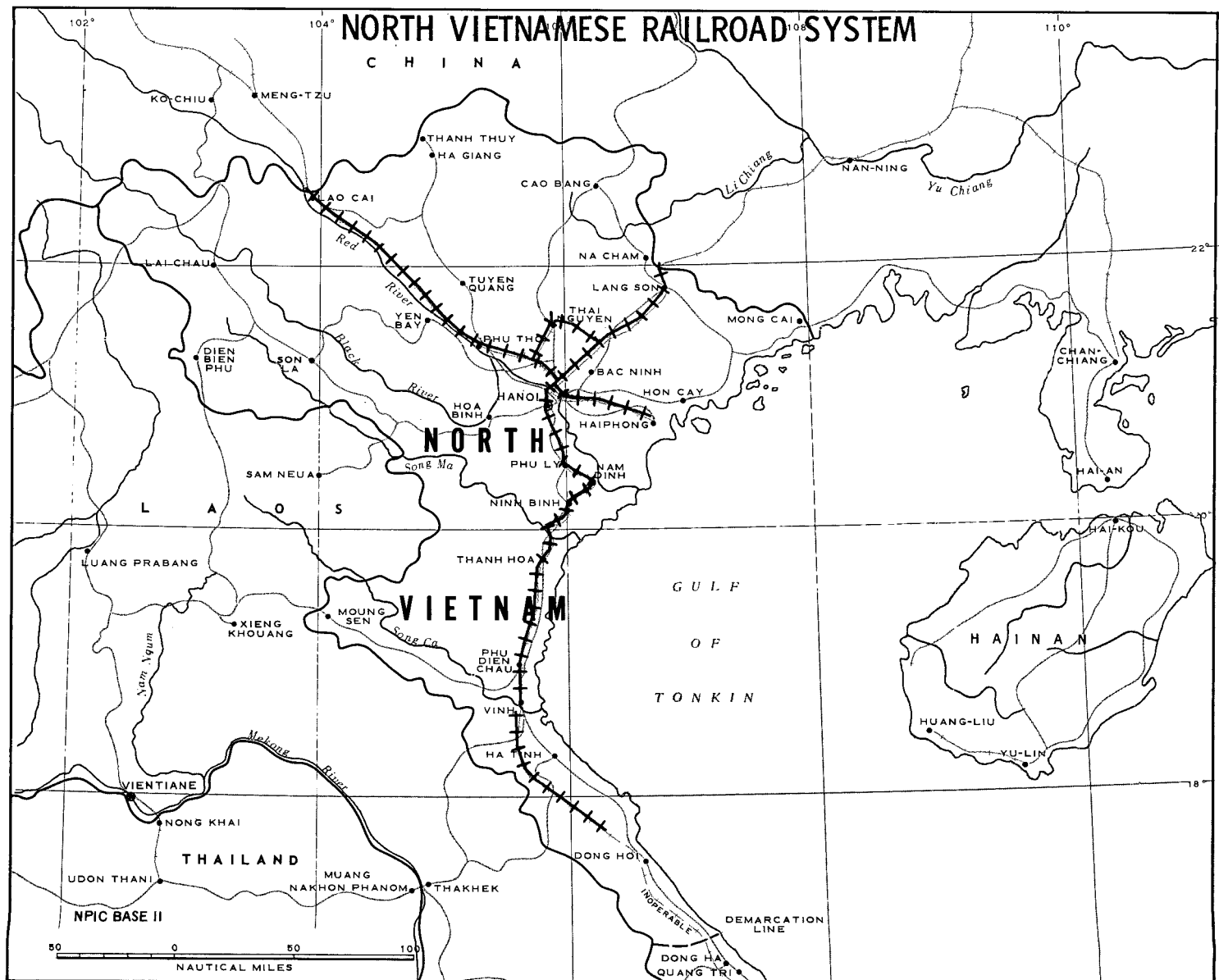
The railroad system has been broken down into 5 major lines: the Hanoi/Lao Cai Line, the Hanoi/Dong Dang Line, the Hanoi/Haiphong Line, the Hanoi/Dong Hoi Line and the Thai Nguyen Line (Figure I). Annotated maps and photos are used to show the status of each line.

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FIGURE 1



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## SUMMARY

Those portions of the Hanoi/Dong Dang, Hanoi/Haiphong and Thai Nguyen Rail Lines covered by interpretable photography are open to through traffic. The Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line is interdicted in 4 places, and the Hanoi/Dong Hoi Rail Line is interdicted in 18 places.

## CONTENTS

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FIGURE 2

KEY

All maps within this report have been taped in the following manner:

- \* Main bridge bombed - new serviceable.
- \* Bypass bridge or bridge serviceable.
- Main bridge unserviceable.
- All bridge crossing facilities unserviceable.
- ▲ Bypass bridge under construction.
- Original bridge has not been damaged or destroyed based on available photography.
- ▨ Extent of rail line covered by satellites, interpretable photography.
- Line of interest. Refer to line number within the section for further information.

All intelligence developed within the reporting period is printed in red, other intelligence is printed in black.

Description of bridges numbered 1 through 75 can be found in CAMP IR 4008, August 1968.

HANOI - LAO CAI  
RAIL ROAD

0 5  
STATUTE MILES

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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 1: Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line

NAME : Viet Tri Railroad Ferry

BE : NA

COORDINATES : 21 17N - 105 26E, WJ 462550

PHOTO REFERENCE : 

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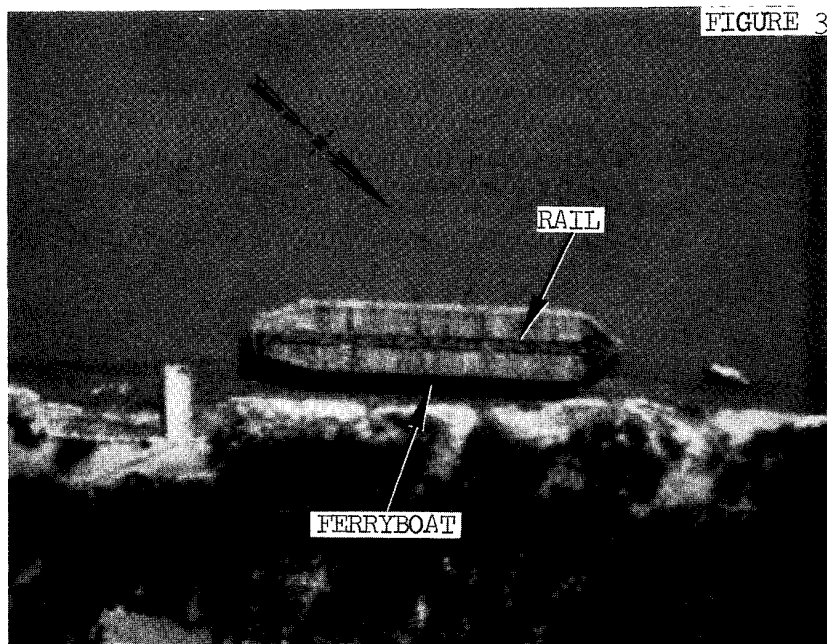
MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NF 48-10

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Photography  reveals a serviceable rail ferry approximately 0.2 nm W of the destroyed Viet Tri Railroad and Highway Bridge  at UTM WJ 465551 (Figure 4). A possible rail ferryboat is located 0.1 nm E of the bridge at UTM WJ 468550 under some overhanging trees. A confirmed rail ferryboat measuring approximately 110' x 20' is located about 0.8 nm E of the bridge at UTM WJ 475560, (Figure 3).

Construction has been undertaken on 4 new ferry approaches (i.e., 2 on either side of the river) approximately 0.2 nm W of the serviceable ferry (Figure 4). Ties have been laid on parts of the two southern approaches, but work has been hampered by high water on the northern approaches. Construction has not commenced on the ferry slips.



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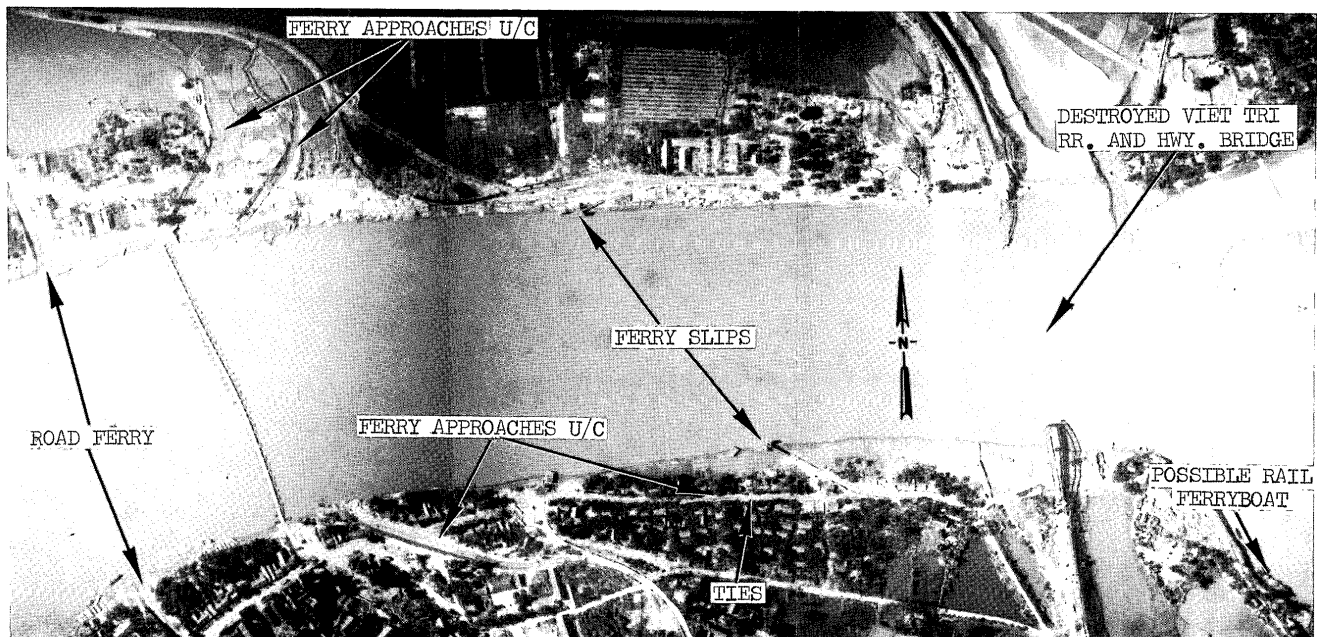
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FIGURE 4

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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 2: Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line

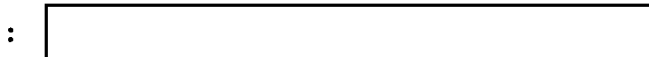
NAME : Pho Hop RR. Bridge

BE :

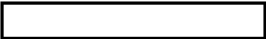


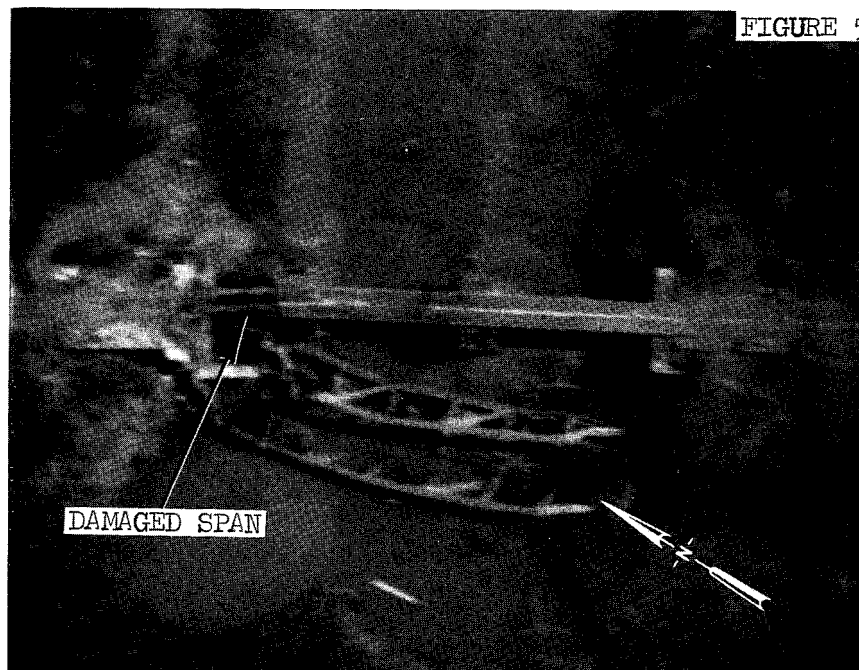
COORDINATES : 21 49N - 104 45E, VK 752127

PHOTO REFERENCE :



MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NF 48-10

Photography  reveals that 1 span of the 3-span deck-beam Pho Hop Railroad Bridge has been heavily damaged and is undergoing repair. The bridge is currently unserviceable.



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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 3: Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line

NAME : Khe Se RR. Bridge

BE :

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COORDINATES : 22 00N - 104 33E, VK 538330

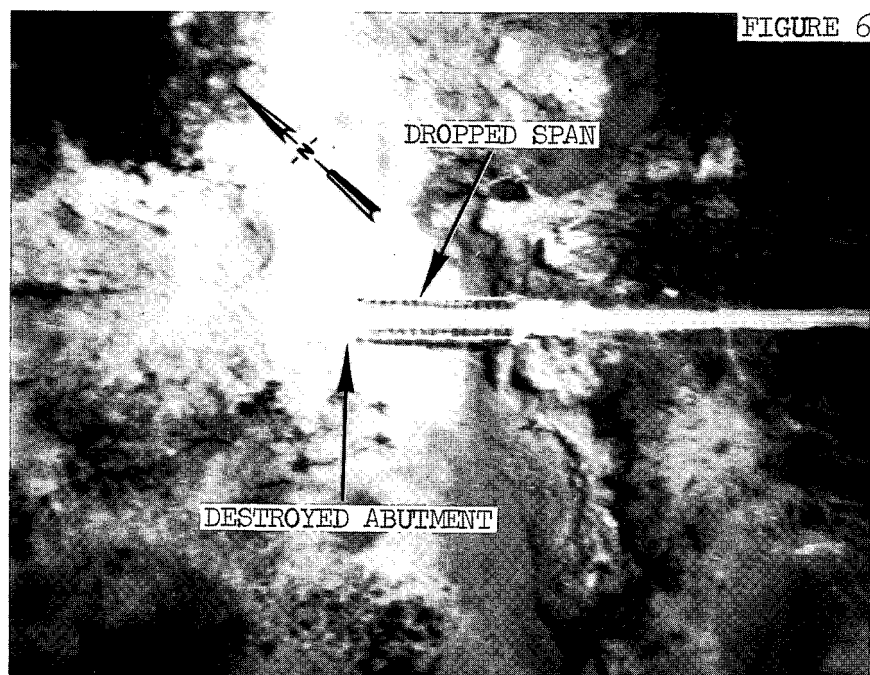
PHOTO REFERENCE :

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MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NF 48-6

Photography [ ] reveals that the single-span half-through truss Khe Se Railroad Bridge is unserviceable. One abutment has been destroyed and the span has been dropped.

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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 4: Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line

NAME : Lang Khay RR. Bridge

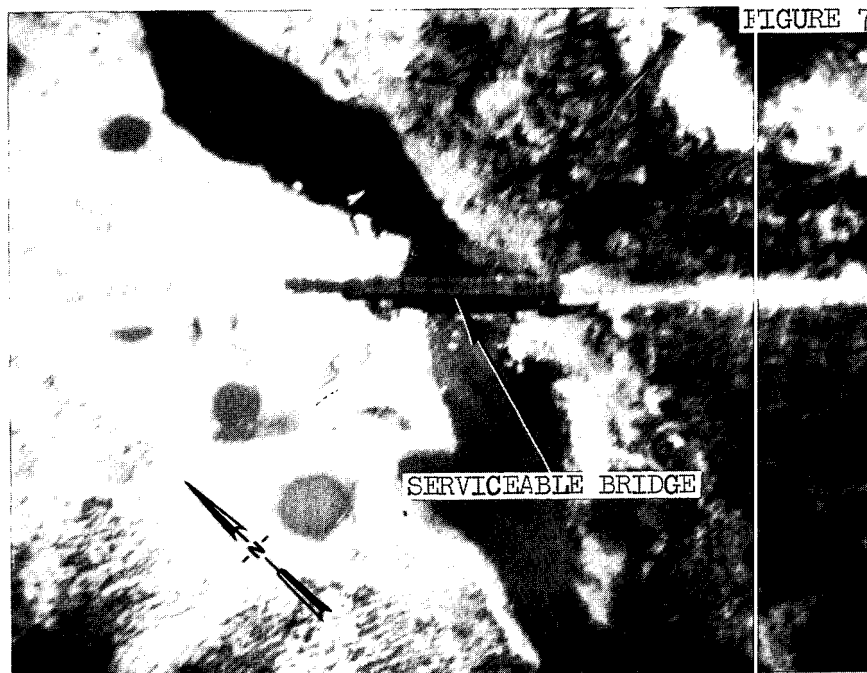
BE

COORDINATES : 22 01N - 104 31E, VK 509359

PHOTO REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NF 48-6

Photography [REDACTED] reveals that the 3-span, deck-type Lang Khay Railroad Bridge has been repaired and is now serviceable.



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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 5: Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line

NAME : Lang Bun RR. Bridge

BE :

COORDINATES : 22 09N - 104 23E, VK 368493

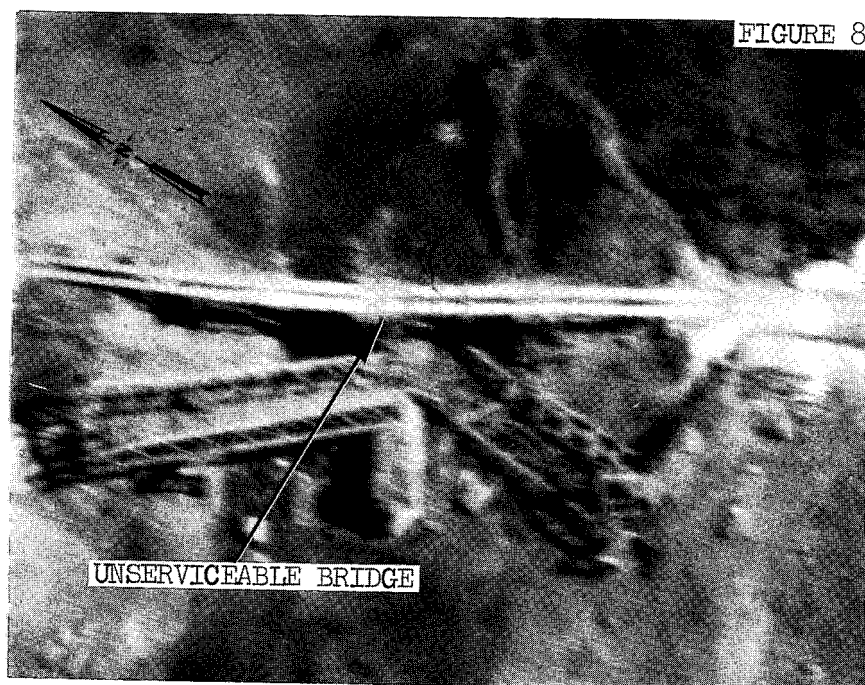
PHOTO REFERENCE :

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NF 48-6

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Photography [REDACTED] reveals that the 8-span, deck-beam Lang Bun Railroad Bridge is undergoing repairs and is unserviceable.

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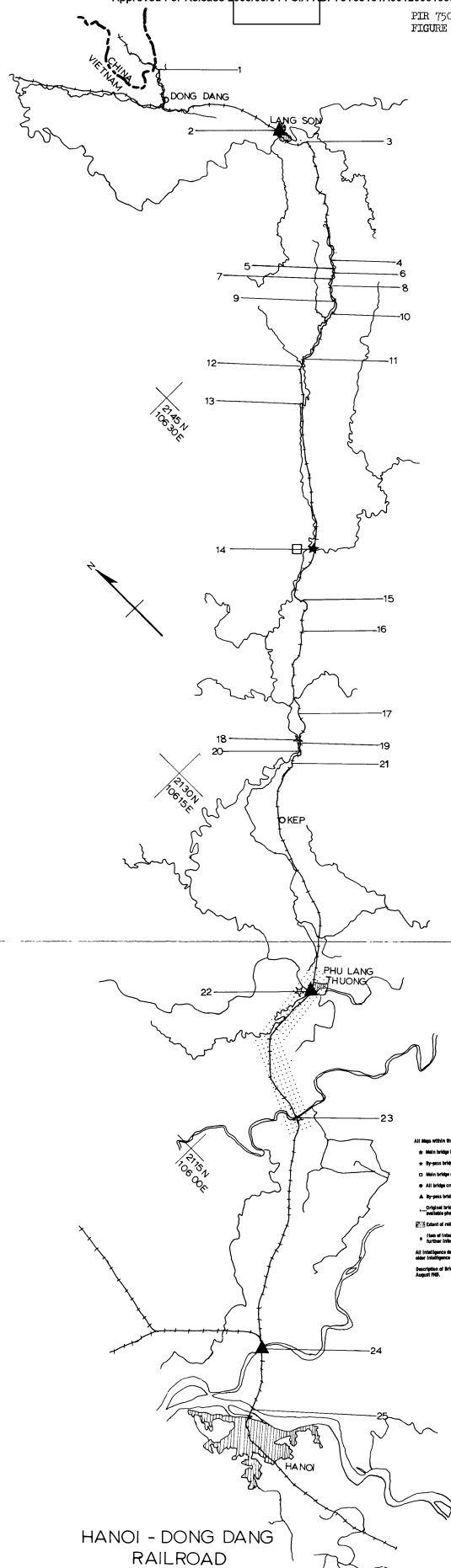


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FIGURE 9

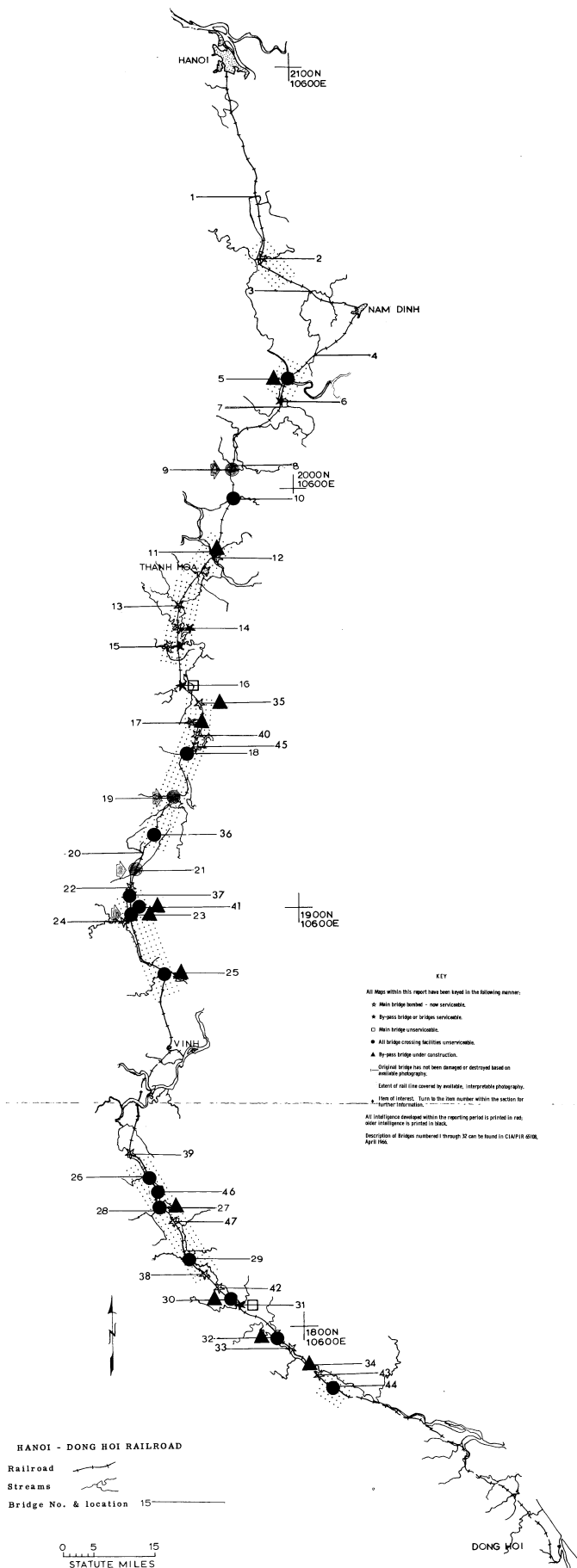


KEY

- All data within this report have been based on the following sources:
- Main bridge located - see symbol.
  - By-pass bridge or bridge under construction.
  - Main bridge under construction.
  - All bridge crossing facilities under construction.
  - By-pass bridge under construction.
  - Original bridge has not been damaged or destroyed based on available photographs.
  - Extent of rail line covered by available, interpretable photographs.
  - Name of stream. Refer to the item number within the section for further information.
- All intelligence developed within the reporting period is printed in red, other intelligence is printed in black.
- Description of bridge numbered 1 through 25 can be found in CMAPR 0004, August 1965.

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FIGURE 10

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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 1: Hanoi/Dong Hoi Rail Line

NAME : Dien Chau RR. Bridge

BE :

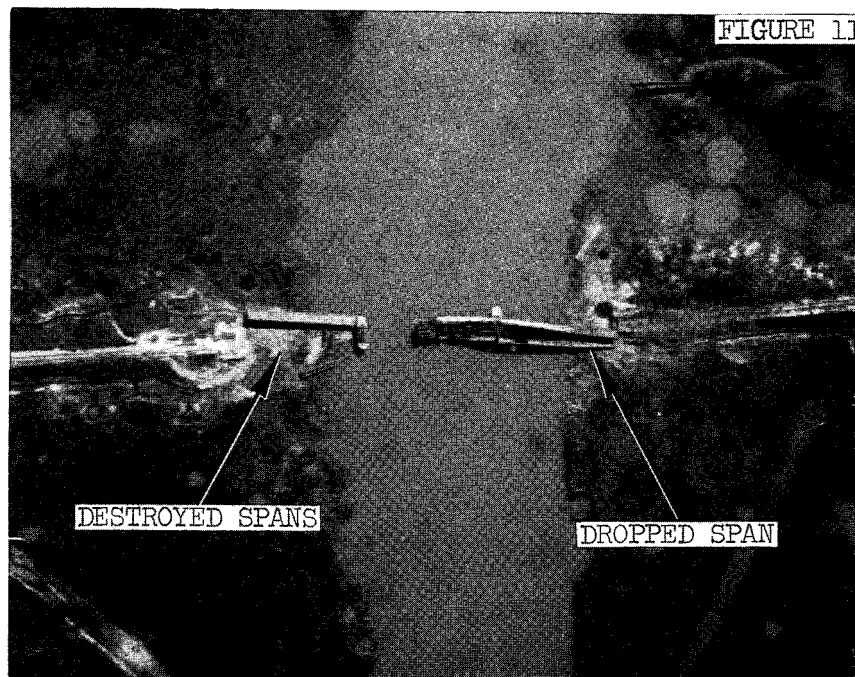
COORDINATES : 18 58N - 105 35E, WF 613978

PHOTO REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NE 48-7

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Additional bomb damage is noted on Dien Chau Railroad Bridge. All 8 spans of the bridge are now damaged or destroyed. Three deck-beam spans had been destroyed previously. The remaining original half-through truss span has now been partially dropped. In addition, four deck-beam spans and 4 temporary piers have been destroyed.



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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 2: Hanoi/Dong Hoi Rail Line

NAME : Long Ngoc RR. Bridge

BE :

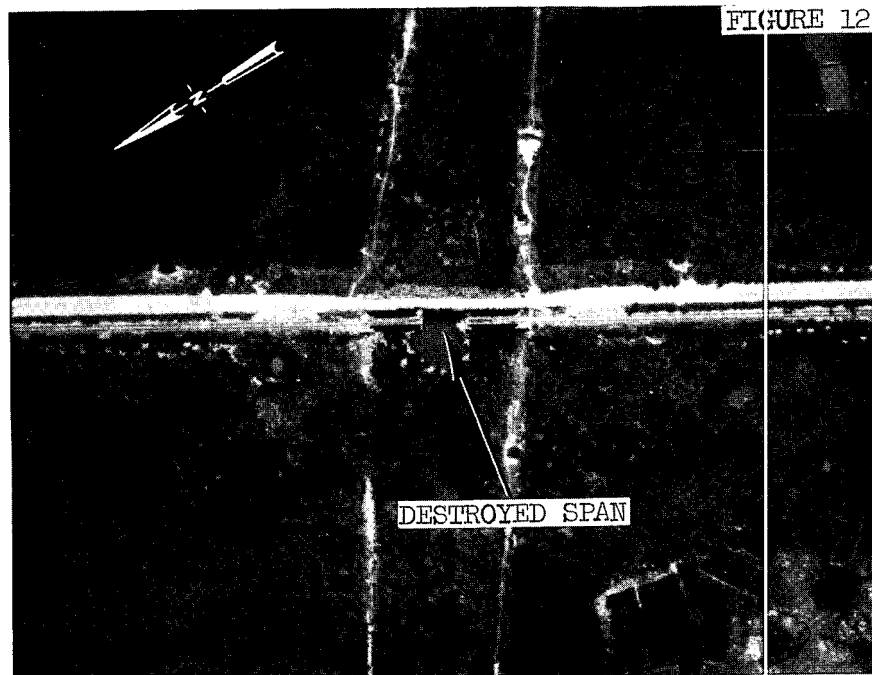
COORDINATES : 19 05N - 105 35E, WG 628112

PHOTO REFERENCE :

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NE 48-3

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Photography [ ] reveals the center span of the 3-span, deck-type Long Ngoc Railroad Bridge has been destroyed.



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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 3: Hanoi/Dong Hoi Rail Line

NAME : Qui Vinh By-Pass No. 2 RR. Bridge

BE :

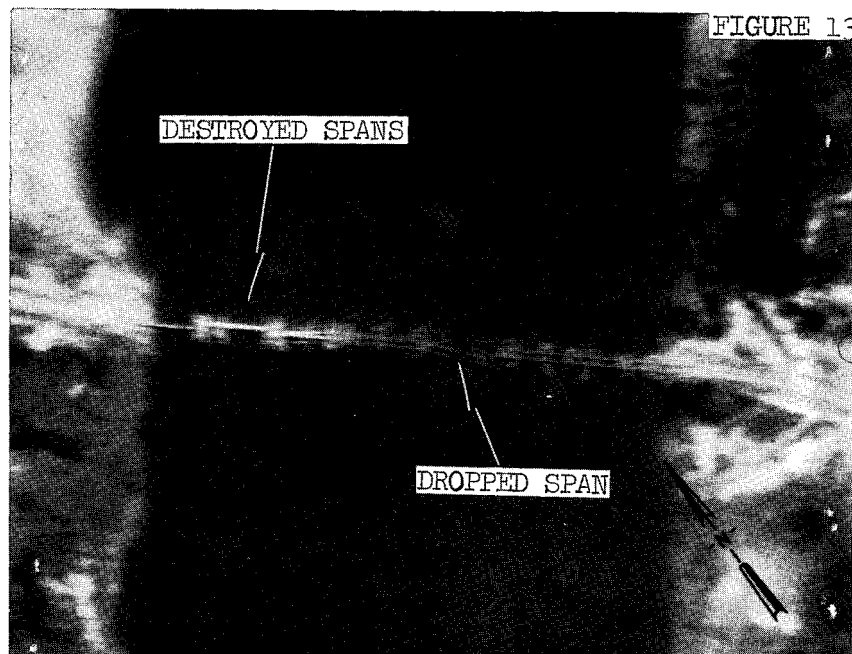
COORDINATES : 19 15N - 105 41E, WG 720302

PHOTO REFERENCE :

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NE 48-3

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25X1 Photography [ ] reveals that the 16-span, trestle-type Qui Vinh By-Pass No. 2 Railroad Bridge has been heavily damaged and is unserviceable. Five spans appear to have been destroyed and 3 spans have been dropped. The bridge is currently undergoing repair. The two alternate railroad bridges at this river crossing are also unserviceable.



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25X1 ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 4: Hanoi/Dong Hoi Rail Line

NAME : Yen Xa RR. and Hwy. Bridge

BE :

COORDINATES : 20 02N - 105 51E, WH 888665

PHOTO REFERENCE :

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NF 48-15

25X1

Photography [ ] reveals that the single-span, half-through truss Yen Xa Railroad Bridge has been damaged and is unserviceable. The decking has been moderately damaged and the bridge is slightly off-center.

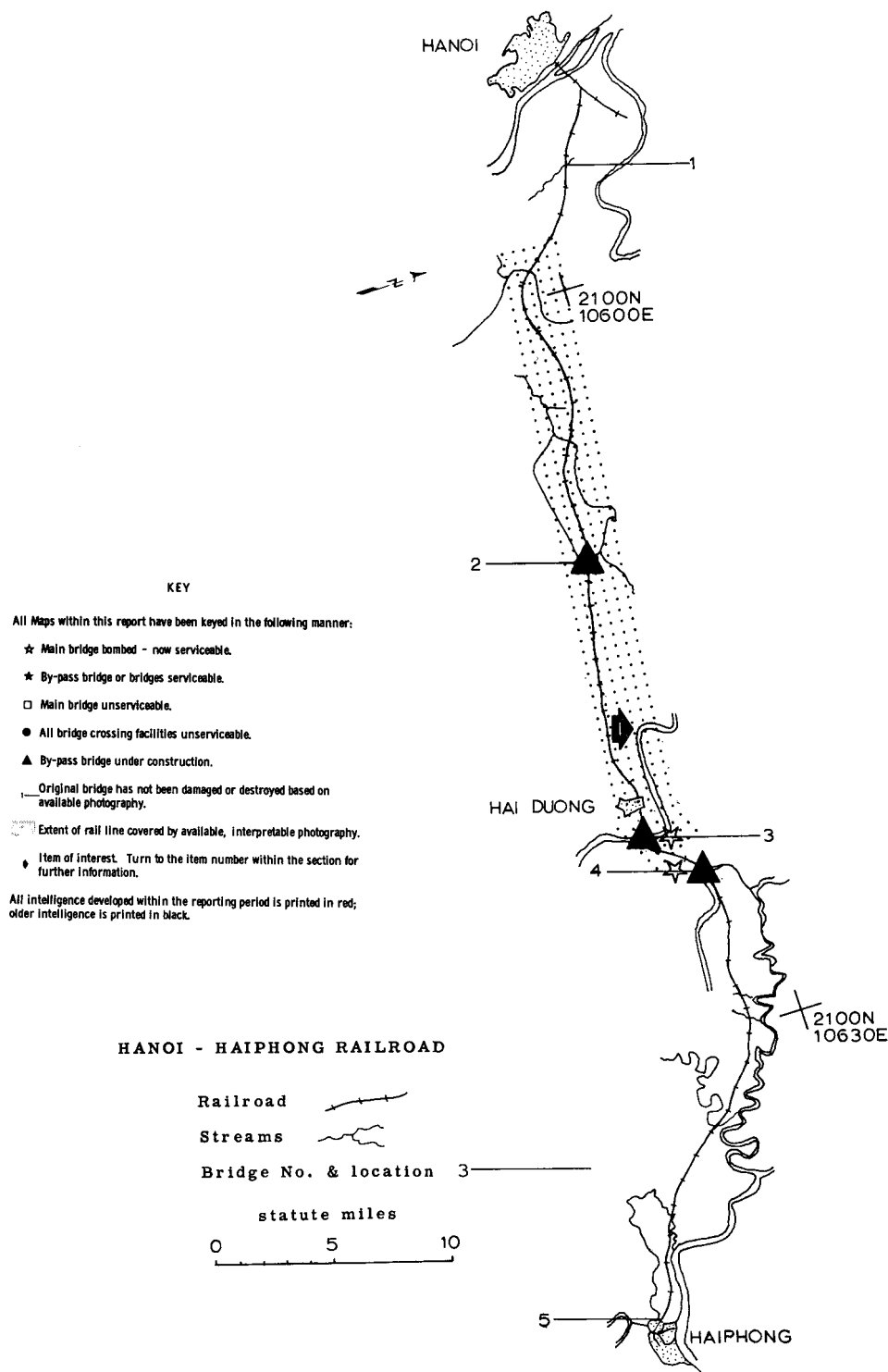


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FIGURE 15



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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 1: Hanoi/Haiphong Rail Line

NAME : Hai Duong Transshipment Point

BE : NA

COORDINATES : 20 57N - 106 17E, XJ 340180

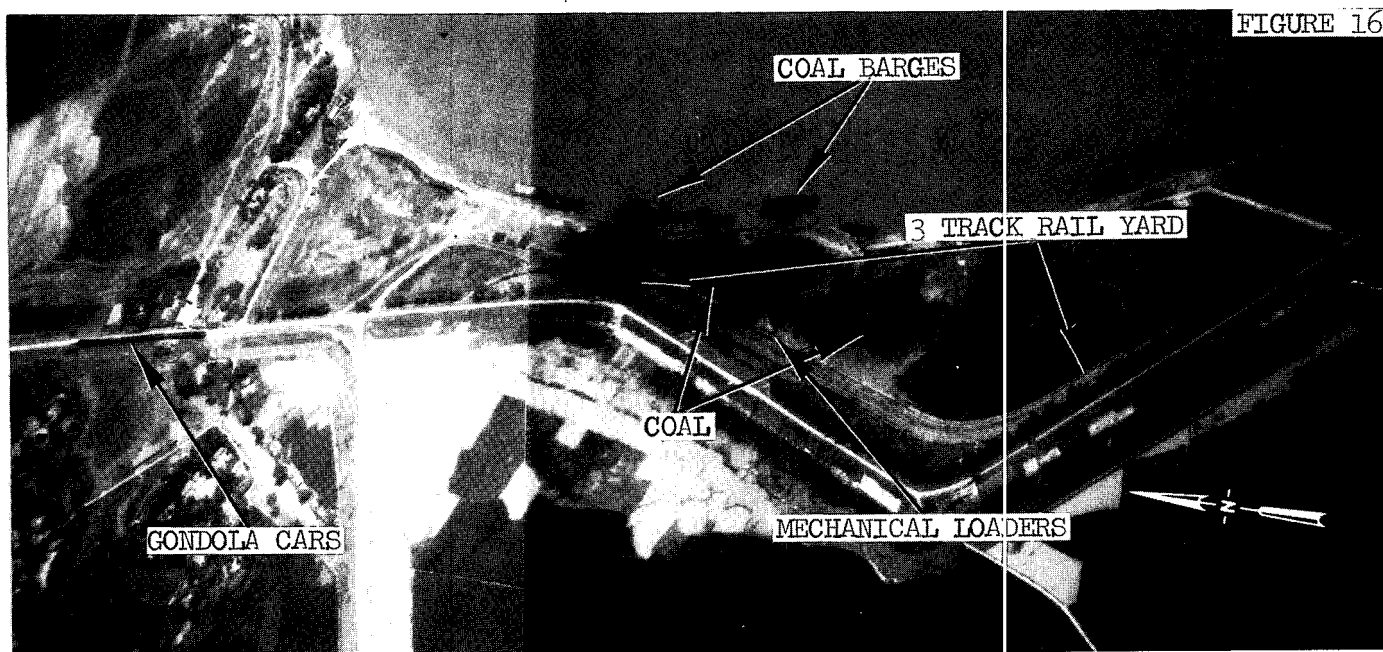
PHOTO REFERENCE :

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MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NF 48-15

It has now been determined that a previously reported rail-to-water transshipment point about 3 nm NW of Hai Duong (Report No. 1) is a coal transloading area. A spur track leads from the main line to a 3-track yard on the west bank of the Song Thai Binh (River). Coal is being transferred between barges and gondola cars, and large quantities of coal are stockpiled in the area.

Coal has also been observed at two other rail-to-water transloading areas. These are at Bac Giang (21 16N - 106 11E, Report No. 8) and Dap Cau (21 12N - 106 06E, Report No. 12).



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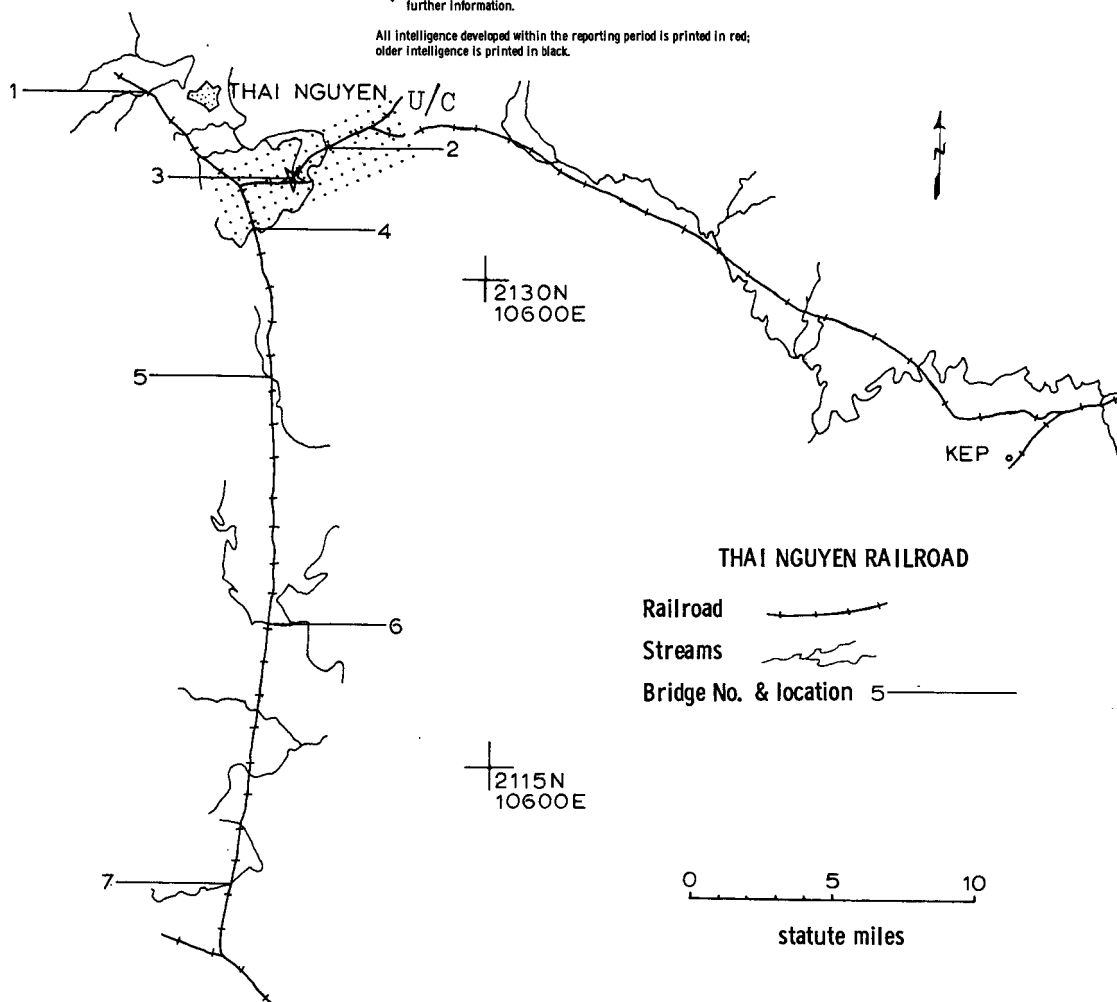
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FIGURE 17

KEY

All Maps within this report have been keyed in the following manner:

- ★ Main bridge bombed - now serviceable.
- ★ By-pass bridge or bridges serviceable.
- Main bridge unserviceable.
- All bridge crossing facilities unserviceable.
- ▲ By-pass bridge under construction.
- Original bridge has not been damaged or destroyed based on available photography.
- ▨ Extent of rail line covered by available, interpretable photography.
- ◆ Item of Interest. Turn to the item number within the section for further information.

All intelligence developed within the reporting period is printed in red; older intelligence is printed in black.



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